GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:404
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
ALLOTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SPECTRUM
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan;Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom operators have been demanding additional spectrum to run the service efficiently and to add more subscribers;

(b) if so, whether the Government has prepared a road map in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Department of Telecommunications has allotted additional spectrum to big and profitable companies free of charge;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the extent to which they have agreed to expand their services;

(g) whether the Government is confident that releasing such an extra spectrum free of cost to these companies will be helpful in covering more areas in the country; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A Committee has been setup to recommend the revised subscriber based spectrum allocation criteria for allotment of 2G Spectrum. However, the matter is sub-judice in Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).

(e) to (h) No, Sir. The additional spectrum has been allotted to various mobile telecom operators, as per their request and taking into account the subscriber based eligibility criteria and subject to availability of spectrum in a telecom service area. The Service Providers have to pay additional percentage of revenue share for such additional spectrum.